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October 26, 2000

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 07553.0017

**Box Patent Application
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231**

New U.S. Patent Application

Title: ETCHING METHOD

Inventors: 1) Mitsuru ISHIKAWA, 2) Masaaki HAGIHARA, and
3) Koichiro INAZAWA

Sir:

We enclose the following papers for filing in the United States Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above patent application.

1. A check for \$750.00 representing a \$ 710.00 filing fee and \$40.00 for recording the Assignment.
2. Application - 19 pages, including 2 independent claims and 12 claims total.
3. Drawings - 3 sheets of drawings containing 3 figures.
4. Declaration and Power of Attorney.
5. Recordation Form Cover Sheet and Assignment to Tokyo Electron Limited.

Applicants claim the right to priority based on Japanese Patent Application No. 11-303422, filed on October 26, 1999.

Please accord this application a serial number and filing date and record and return the Assignment to the undersigned.

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
October 26, 2000
Page 2

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional filing fees due and any other fees due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 during the pendency of this application to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

By *David W. Hill*
David W. Hill
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DWH/FPD/sci
Enclosures